

from further consideration by the Examiner as being directed to a non-elected invention.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide an Office Action in the present application with regard to claims 2-6, 8-10, 21-24, 27, 28 and 30-35. Applicant believes that all of the above claims are readable on the elected species illustrated in Fig. 5. An Office Action on the merits with regard to these claims is therefore respectfully requested.

As indicated in the Amendment dated October 18, 2001, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the application are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and allowance of the present application is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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